

**SECRET BALLOT ELECTION**

**Friday, March 3, 2023**

**And**

**TOWN MEETING WARRANT**

**Saturday, March 4, 2023**

To Ernest Falcone, resident of the Town of Embden, in the County of Somerset, State of Maine,

**GREETINGS:**

In the name of the State of Maine, you are hereby required to notify and warn the inhabitants of the town of Embden in said county and state, qualified by law to vote in town affairs, to meet at the Embden Town Office in said town on Friday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March, A.D. 2023, at nine and forty-five o'clock in the forenoon, then and there to act upon Article 1 and by secret ballot on Article 2 as set out below, the polling hours therefore to be from ten o'clock in the forenoon until six o'clock in the evening;

And, to notify and warn said inhabitants to meet at the Embden Community Center in said town on Saturday, the 4th day of March 2023 A.D., at ten o'clock in the morning, then and there to act on Articles 3 through 38 as set out below, to wit:

**Article 1:** To elect a moderator, all municipal officers, and school committee members are required to be elected.

**Article 2:** To elect municipal officers and school committee members as are required to be elected.

Nominated Candidates:

Selectman, three-year term: Wayne McLaughlin  
Myles Durkin

Tax Collector: Ruth Blake

Road Commissioner, one-year term: Michael Witham

RSU #74 School Board Director, three-year term:

**Article 3:** To see if the Inhabitants will accept the following tax assessment and collection related questions:

A. To see if the Inhabitants will authorize the Tax Collector and Treasurer to apply any property

tax overpayment of less than \$20 to that person's next year's property taxes.

B. To see if the Inhabitants will vote to authorize citizens to pay their property taxes in one installment, due and payable 45 days after commitment or by September 1, 2023, and to charge interest at the rate of 8% per annum on unpaid balances after due date.

C. To see if the Inhabitants will vote to authorize the Tax Collector or Treasurer to accept prepayments of taxes not yet committed pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A. Section 506 and pay 0% interest on these prepaid taxes.

D. To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate from overlay to pay tax abatements and applicable interest granted during the fiscal year 2023 pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A Section 710.

E. To see if the Inhabitants will vote to set the interest rate of 2% to be paid by the Town on abated taxes pursuant to 36 M.R.S.A Section 506-A.

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 4.** To see if the Inhabitants will authorize the Selectmen to procure a Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) for the purpose of paying municipal indebtedness; such note to be repaid during the current fiscal year from taxes paid during the municipal year.

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 5.** To see if the Inhabitants will authorize the Municipal Officers to apply for, accept, and expend grant money available from the State of Maine, Federal Government, or other organizations for any public purpose when they deem it to be in the town's best interest and needed matching funds are available within the current budget.

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 6.** To see if the Inhabitants will authorize the Municipal Officers to spend an amount not to exceed 3/12 of the budgeted amount of the previous annual budget during the period from January 1, 2024, to the Annual Town Meeting.

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 7.** To see if the Inhabitants will authorize the Municipal Officers to sell and dispose of any tax acquired property by the following procedure: acquiring a fair market value on the

property, set a minimum bid amount and to place said property out to bid. Then to award the property on such terms as they deem to be in the best interest of the town and to execute Quit Claim Deeds for such property.

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 8.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to authorize the Municipal Officers to accept gifts of money, equipment, or other articles for the town. (All gifts to become property of the town.)

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 9.** To see if the Inhabitants will accept funds from, but not limited to, the following potential revenue sources:

- A. Municipal Revenue Sharing
- B. Local Roads Assistance Program
- C. State Aid for Education
- D. Civil Emergency Funds
- E. Tree Growth Reimbursement
- F. Veteran's Exemption Reimbursement
- G. Homestead Exemption Reimbursement
- H. General Assistance Reimbursement
- I. FEMA

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 10.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to authorize the municipal officers to make final determinations regarding the closing and opening of roads to winter maintenance pursuant to 23 M.R.S.A. Section 2953.

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 11.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$130,000 from taxation for compensation, applicable taxes, training, and other related expenses for the Municipal Officials.

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 12.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$8,000 from taxation for membership, dues, etc. in civic organizations, (e.g.; KVCOG, SEDC, MMA, MTCCA, MTCTA, MAAO, etc.).

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 13.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 from taxation for all insurance policies (e.g.; worker’s comp., building, equipment, etc.).

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 14.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 from taxation for legal expenses (If required, any additional funding to be from Surplus).

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 15.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 from taxation for audit of the 2021 town books, expenses relating to Town Meeting(s), and for printing of the Annual Town Report. (If required, any additional funding to be from Surplus).

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 16.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$80,000 from taxation for utilities (e.g.; fuel, electricity, telephone, internet, security alarm, mowing, trash removal, office supplies, cleaning, etc.).

Town Office	\$30,000	Boat Landing/Town Beaches	\$2,500
Community Center	\$40,000	Street Lights	\$2,500
Town House	\$ 2,500	Sand Shed	\$2,500

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 17.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$35,000 from taxation for office supplies, equipment, Information/Technology, and Software Licensing used for operating the town office.

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 18.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 from taxation for Facilities Maintenance.

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 19.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 from taxation for compensation, applicable taxes, training, and other related expenses for Tax Assessment including tax maps.

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 20.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000 from taxation for compensation, applicable taxes, training, and other related expenses for the Planning Board.

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 21.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$40,000 from taxation, for compensation, applicable taxes, training, and other related expenses for Code Enforcement.

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 22.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 from taxation, for compensation, applicable taxes, training, and other related expenses for the Appeals Board (If required, any additional funding to be from Surplus).

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 23.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$95,000 from taxation for emergency services and authorize the Board of Selectmen to enter into contractual agreements with the Town of Anson (fire protection), Anson-Madison-Starks (AMS Ambulance Service), and Anson/Madison Water District (for the annual rental of fire hydrants). If required, any additional funding to be from Surplus.

Fire Protection	\$51,000
Ambulance Service	\$25,000
Hydrant Rental	\$19,000

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 24.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 from taxation, for Animal shelter fees, compensation, and applicable taxes for the town's Animal Control Officer.

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 25.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$4,000 from taxation for signs, maintenance, compensation, and applicable taxes for the town's E911 Coordination Officer.

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 26.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to change the elected position of Road Commissioner from a one-year term to be elected to a three-year term effective at the Annual Town Meeting in 2024.

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 27.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to pay all Town hired labor and equipment at the prevailing State of Maine hourly rate or what they will do related thereto.

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 28.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$250,000 from surplus for repair and maintenance of bridges, roads, and culverts, dedicated for use by the Road Commissioner (to be used in conjunction with carried forward balance and LRAP grant monies from the State of Maine).

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 29.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate \$315,750 from taxation for winter roads, or what they will do related thereto.

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 30.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000 from taxation for sanitation/solid waste disposal to Waste Management, Inc. (If required, any additional funding to be from Surplus).

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 31.** To see if the Inhabitants will raise and appropriate \$2,000 from surplus for the purpose of General Assistance administered by the town. (If required, any additional funding to be from Surplus).

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 32.** To see if the Inhabitants will raise and appropriate the recommended amount from surplus for the following Social Services.

A. Stewart Public Library	\$1,500.00
B. Somerset County Hospice	\$1,300.00
C. Kennebec Behavioral Health	\$ 250.00
D. Spectrum Generations	\$1,000.00
E. People Who Care Food Cupboard	\$4,000.00
F. Baker Mountain	\$1,000.00

G. American Red Cross	\$ 250.00
H. KVCAP	\$ 750.00
I. Sunset Cemetery	\$1,000.00
J. Madison Public Library	\$ 600.00
K. Sexual Assault Crisis & Support Center	\$ 315.00
L. Maine Public Broadcasting	\$ 100.00
M. Community Health & Counseling	\$ 200.00
N. Life Flight of Maine	\$ 902.00
O. Somerset Economic Development Corp.	\$ 100.00
P. Crisis & Counseling Centers	\$1,259.21

**Total:           \$14,526.21**

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 33.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to appropriate the sum of \$3,000 from surplus to the Embden Travelers Snowmobile Club for the maintenance of their system of trails and bridges open in snow season to the public within the Town of Embden.

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 34.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$3,000 from surplus plus interest from the Mary Ann Burns trust fund for use, dedicated to maintenance of cemeteries within the town.

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 35.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$150,000 from excise to add to the Capital Improvement Fund, specifically for future town road paving projects.

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 36.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,000 from surplus to add to the Capital Improvement Fund, specifically for future town building projects.

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 37.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to amend the Embden Shoreland Zoning Ordinance by adding the following sentence to **Section C. (1) as follows:**  
**No permit is required for a temporary dock benefiting a single-family residential parcel.**

Selectboard recommends.

**Article 38.** To see if the Inhabitants will vote to increase the property tax levy limit established

for the Town of Embden by State Law in the event that the municipal budget approved by the proposed articles will result in a tax commitment that is greater than the property tax levy limit.

Selectboard recommends.

**Dated: 2nd day of February 2023**

Charles E. Taylor, Select Board Chairman

---

Wayne McLaughlin, Selectman

---

Janice Welch, Selectwoman

---

**Municipal Officers**